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# subnet

Last modified: July 29, 1997

A portion of a [network](#) that shares a common address component. On [TCP/IP](#) networks, subnets are defined as all devices whose [IP addresses](#) have the same prefix. For example, all devices with IP addresses that start with 100.100.100. would be part of the same subnet. Dividing a network into subnets is useful for both security and performance reasons. IP networks are divided using a [subnet mask](#).

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## Understanding IP addressing !=

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